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17 February 1965

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE RELATING TO NATIONAL SECURITY

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South Vietnam: The government installed yesterday under Premier Phan Huy Quat is predominantly civilian.

Military officers head only three ministries—defense, psychological warfare, and youth. However, the defense minister, General Nguyen Van Thieu, will also be first deputy premier.

Two civilian deputy premiers, serving concurrently as foreign affairs and planning ministers, are veteran politicians with government experience prior to Diem's regime. At least five other ministers are well known political figures, and most of the rest have technical qualifications. Vietnam's three regions—south, center and north, now North Vietnam—are about equally represented. Four ministers are Catholic, while two are Cao Dai. The majority is nominally Buddhist but only two are close to the Buddhist Institute.

A few last-minute changes were made in the projected cabinet slate, which General Khanh had described as not the best possible team but the best that can be fielded at the present time. This could indicate some reserve, particularly on the part of Catholics and southerners who are suspicious of Khanh's intentions or who may feel that Quat will establish a government dominated by northerners and closely tied to the Buddhists.

Khanh has indicated that the Armed Forces Council will proceed with the early establishment of a military-civilian council to act as a legislature, and will leave the question of an elected assembly to the indefinite future. The Armed Forces Council seems likely to act as a watchdog over the government, ready to intervene if its performance is not satisfactory.

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NOTES

Turkey: President Gursel has called on Suat Hayri Urguplu, a former ambassador to the US and longtime bureaucrat, to form a new cabinet. Urguplu was named after Gursel had conferred with leaders of the parties which forced Premier Inonu's resignation last week, and he should be able to win National Assembly approval. Although Urguplu has been closely associated with the opposition Justice Party, he will probably do little more than serve as a caretaker until the elections,

now scheduled for next October

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South Africa: As part of its effort to reduce the effectiveness of international arms embargoes, the Verwoerd government may have taken the first step toward developing a domestic aircraft industry. According to the South African press, the Italian aircraft firm Macchi has authorized South Africa to "manufacture and assemble" a Macchi aircraft -- probably the MB-326 jet basic trainer. Production is scheduled to begin late next year at a \$56-million plant to be constructed near Johannesburg.

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The Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

The Scientific Adviser to the President

The Director of the Budget

The Department of State

The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Counselor and Chairman of the Policy Planning Council

The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Under Secretary of the Treasury

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The Secretary of the Army

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Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

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